

A JOINT MEMORIAL

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2 DECLARING FEBRUARY 7, 2003 AS "ENLACE NEW MEXICO DAY" AT THE  
3 LEGISLATURE.

4 WHEREAS, New Mexico has a rich multicultural heritage that is rooted in its  
5 unique history; and

6 WHEREAS, New Mexico's Latino students and communities contribute to the  
7 multicultural heritage of the state and with improved educational attainment, represent  
8 a significant promise for a bright economic future for the state; and

9 WHEREAS, data from the state department of public education, the  
10 commission on higher education and the national center for education statistics  
11 illustrate a significant achievement gap between Latino students and other student  
12 groups in New Mexico public schools; and

13 WHEREAS, this achievement gap results in considerable economic and social  
14 costs to the state of New Mexico as a result of high Latino student dropout rates with  
15 almost half of Latino students in New Mexico not graduating from high school; and

16 WHEREAS, ENLACE New Mexico, "Engaging Latino Communities for  
17 Education", was established with the assistance of a grant awarded by the W. K.  
18 Kellogg foundation as part of a national initiative to improve the educational  
19 participation and graduation rates of Latino students through enhanced community  
20 involvement; and

21 WHEREAS, ENLACE New Mexico has created a *Framework for Success*, which  
22 outlines effective educational methods in classes, schools and communities where  
23 Latino students are gaining educational success; and

24 WHEREAS, ENLACE New Mexico is dedicated to the goal of improving Latino  
25 student achievement and reducing achievement gaps;

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
27 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 7, 2003 be declared "ENLACE New Mexico  
28 Day" at the legislature and that recognition be extended to ENLACE New Mexico for its

1 service in recognizing that by increasing opportunities for academic achievement,  
2 school completion and engagement in higher education, ENLACE New Mexico  
3 continues to improve educational opportunities and results for Latino students.

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